

The New York World Telegram & Sun raves, "A Must See...!"

The Lavender Times says, "Definitely – Bring a Friend"

The San Francisco Call Bulletin reports "Don't miss this pre-High Holiday Smash"

That's CSZ!

Bring a Friend to the Third Annual

CSZ Open House

Saturday, September 6, 7 - 9 pm
Childcare and parking available

The Keshet and Membership Committees invite you to "That's CSZ!", a fun-filled night on Saturday, September 6. Come share the sweetness of Shabbat and the joy of Havdalah with longtime friends as well as prospective new members.

Be sure to bring your friends for this unique opportunity to introduce them to our congregation. Remember, Rosh Hashanah is only three weeks later and we'll have membership applications and tickets available at the Open House. You could win! Members who bring a friend will be entered into a raffle for prizes from the CSZ Gift Shop.

That's CSZ!

Starring Rabbi Camille Shira Angel and a cast of progressive Reform Jews representing a diversity of sexual and gender identities.

RATED ALL Audiences:

Fun for Singles, Couples, Families, Children

Contains Food, Fun, Shabbat, Singing and Schmoozing. Includes progressive, gender neutral and LGBT positive liturgy.

Selichot: Study, Havdalah and Service

With Rabbi Camille Shira Angel and Frank Yellin

Saturday, September 20, 9 - 10 pm

For centuries, Jews have gathered in their synagogues on the Saturday evening near Rosh Hashanah in order to prepare for the sacred season of self-scrutiny and renewal. Selichot means "forgiveness." Our Selichot

study session will begin at 9 pm, followed by the beautiful Havdalah service, separating Shabbat from the rest of the week. Explore High Holiday religious themes as we reach the end of Elul and anticipate Tishrei.

5764 High Holiday Services

Erev Rosh Hashanah	September 26, 7:30 pm	Lowell High School
First Day Rosh Hashanah	September 27, 9:30 am	Lowell High School
Rosh Hashanah family services	September 27, 9:30 – 10:30 am	Lowell High
Tashlich	September 27, afternoon	Place TBA
Second Day Rosh Hashanah	September 28, 9:30 am	CSZ
Kol Nidre	October 5, 7:30 pm	Herbst Theater
Yom Kippur morning	October 6, 9:30 am	Herbst Theater
Yom Kippur family services	October 6, 9:30 – 10:30 am	Herbst Theater
Yizkor	October 6, 5:45 pm	Herbst Theater
Neilah	October 6, 6:30 pm	Herbst Theater
Erev Sukkot	October 10, 7:30 pm	CSZ
Sukkot	October 11, 10 am	CSZ
Simchat Torah	October 17, 7:30 pm	CSZ

Children's High Holiday Activities

Erev Rosh Hashanah childcare	September 26, 7:30 – 10 pm	Lowell High
Rosh Hashanah childcare	September 27, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm	Lowell High
Kol Nidre childcare	October 5, 7:30 – 10:00 pm	Herbst Theater
Yom Kippur morning childcare	October 6, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm	Herbst Theater
Yizkor/Neilah childcare	October 6, 5:30 – 7:30 pm	Herbst Theater

Sign up for High Holiday childcare now! The deadline for registration is Friday, September 5. Children must be pre-registered to participate. Please contact the office for a registration form if you cannot find yours.

New Service Time For Shabbat

First Friday of the month, 8:15 pm

Starting on September 5, Shabbat services on the **first Friday of each month** will begin at **8:15 pm**. All other Friday night services in the month will begin at 7:30 pm as usual.



Rabbi's Column

Awesome Days Ahead

"Your deeds will bring you near and your deeds will put you at a distance."

—Mishnah, Eduyot 5:7

We have arrived once again to the season of introspection, a refuge in time that offers us shelter and calmness in the turbulence of our lives. The familiar melodies and words of the Machzor, the companionship of our spiritual community, and the still small voice within calls out to us to take stock of where we've been and where we're headed. In Hebrew, this is referred to as *Heshbon HaNefesh*, literally an "accounting of the soul."

Judaism defines three relationships that form the nexus of all such spiritual accounting. Certain deeds are meant to be performed between a person and herself (this is called *bein adam l'atmo*), others are to be between a person and God (*bein adam le-Makom*), and still others between a person and his neighbor or his fellow human beings (*bein adam l'havero*). And we must be attentive to all three if we are to improve and enliven aspects of our lives.

According to our tradition, there are three sorts of actions that help us cultivate our highest selves: *Teshuvah*, *Tefillah* and *Tzedakah* – Repentance, Prayer and Generosity. During the holy days we will hear this refrain many times, "*Teshuvah*, *tefillah utzedakah ma'avirin et roa hagezerah* – repentance, prayer and generous deeds can transform the harsh decree." The great Rabbi Nehemiah of Berlin observed that they also reduce the severity of the evil that happens in life.

My teacher Rachel Adler has said, "If you do teshuvah, tzedakah and tefillah, does it mean nothing terrible will happen to you? No, but it does mean that you'll be a very different person undergoing it....Things happen to us that we don't have a choice about," she says. "What we do have a choice about is repentance, righteous giving and prayer. What we do have a choice about is what kind of person we want to be."



Why do people give? Various reasons: habit, guilt, mitzvah, personal connection to a cause, etc. But the most powerful reason is that it is a way to feel the presence of God. People want to be touched and moved spiritually. When we reach beyond what is expected, we feel the presence of God.

The great Rabbi Moses ben Maimon (also known as Maimonides and the RamBam) held tzedakah as the most virtuous spiritual practice. He believed that it was a greater mitzvah to ask others to give tzedakah than to give yourself because you are giving others the possibility of fulfilling a mitzvah. We can see ourselves as vessels to elevate one another, helping each to bring God into our lives.

Tzedakah is an imperative. It means stepping up to help others in their basic physical human needs. It's not an option; it's an obligation. Tzedakah enables us to enhance our own characteristic of generosity, a trait we know needs work in all of us. Where you choose to give is an entirely personal matter; that you give is a collective assumption; that you take the opportunity during the High Holidays to give to Sha'ar Zahav in as deeply generous a way as you can is my prayer.

A Hasidic commentary with a queer twist: "When the load on the back of a camel tilts and begins to fall, only one butch is needed to put it back in place. But if the entire load falls to the ground, not even four or five butches can pick it up and replace it. It's the same with tzedakah: a little today will accomplish what a lot tomorrow may not be able to do."

May our capacity for giving increase and may the joy we receive from doing so equally increase. *L'shanah tovah tikkatevu* – May you all be blessed with a sweet and healthy New Year.

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SAVE THE DATE!

Second Annual Congregational Advance

November 1 and 2
Saturday afternoon and Sunday
at CSZ

As we embark on our next 25 years,
come join your community to:

Heal the World	Study
Be Inspired	Eat
Connect	Dance
Make Art	Have Fun

The Jewish Gaily Forward

September 2003
Volume 27, Issue 1

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published 11 times a year (monthly with a combined July-August issue) by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, CA 94103, 415/861-6932. Email: office@shaarzahav.org. Permission to reprint with attribution is hereby granted.

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Members of the Newsletter Committee:

- Chair and Editorial Coordinator
Karen Schiller
- Editing/proofreading/layout:
Judith Cohen, Marjorie Hilsenrad,
Rose Katz, Batya Kalis, Lisa Szer
- Advertising:
Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or
froslyn@earthlink.net)
- Design and layout:
Dale Murphy
Nuts-n-Bolts Graphics
dale@nutsnboltsgraphics.com
- Printing: Genesis Printing & Graphics
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Classified ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each additional 10 words.

Payment must accompany ads and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, CA 94103, marked: Attention Forward Advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

Why Don't More of Us Catch the Pitch?

As our High Holiday season approaches, I want to reflect on a seeming anomaly in our past High Holiday endeavors. Here at Sha'ar Zahav, year after year we have compelling and inspiring fundraising "pitches" delivered from our High Holiday bimah. I'm sure they are better than at most synagogues around the country. Our pitches remind us of the meaning that CSZ has in our lives, of the remarkable ways in which we have brought change to the larger world and of how much is at stake in ensuring the strength of our congregation for the future. Yet, historically, the amount of money that results from these pitches is quite low.



For most shuls, the High Holiday Campaign provides a large portion of their annual revenues. At CSZ, while a small number of members regularly make a High Holiday contribution, we get little more than 2% of our revenues from High Holiday donations. With all this good pitching, why are so few of us catching?

Let me suggest a few answers (and questions), and discuss some changes being made this year as we try to strengthen the effectiveness of our High Holiday campaign. One question is: to whom do we each think the "pitchers" are talking; who is their intended audience? If I am a dues-paying member in good standing who might also make occasional contributions to the shul during the year, are these pitches meant for me? Or are they addressed primarily to the nonmember visitors and guests who join us for High Holidays? My answer, and the answer endorsed by the Va'ad, is a simple one: the pitches are meant for everyone. No one should listen to them and suppose that someone else's financial support is being requested. The pitches are meant for you. Dues payments

now represent only fifty percent of our annual operating expenses. For us to thrive as a community, we must augment our annual dues with major fundraising campaigns. And we must all share the obligation to make these campaigns succeed.

A second question: When is the right time to make your High Holiday pledge? In past years, we have sent people home with an envelope and a message to think about making a donation. Little wonder that the response has been low, especially from nonmembers and visitors. This year, in a plan approved unanimously by the Va'ad, we will be doing something a bit different. We will be providing everyone with the opportunity to decide on their pledge and to turn it in before leaving the building in which services are held. Rabbi Angel, in her column on page 2, reflects on the spiritual dimensions of giving tzedakah. This approach begins a new tradition for CSZ, one that we believe will make us stronger. (A more detailed explanation of the logistics will come with your tickets.)

A final question: How much should I pledge? This is the most personal question, but allow me to offer a few thoughts. Our local economy is struggling and many of our members are unemployed or under-employed. All of this is reflected in our dues and contribution revenue. So, when you are asked to decide on a High Holiday pledge, make it a significant one in relation to your own financial position. If you can't give much, give what you can. If you think of yourself as average in our congregation in terms of financial means, consider a contribution equal to 25% of your annual dues pledge. And I challenge the wealthiest among us to aspire to a campaign pledge equal to your dues pledge. *I commit to making that pledge myself.*

May our acts of tzedakah make for a sweet new year. L'shanah tovah.

Kever Avot

With Rabbi Camille Shira Angel and Paul Cohen

Sunday, October 5, 10:30 am
Hills of Eternity, Colma

The High Holy Days are a period for recalling the lasting influence of loved ones and friends upon our lives. Jewish tradition teaches us that we are to honor our dead with special moments of memorial and by living lives that reflect their highest aspirations. It is customary to visit the graves of those who enriched us with their care, counsel and love. At the grave, a memorial prayer, along with the Kaddish prayer, are recited. We will meet at Hills of Eternity at 10:30 am for Kever Avot and brunch.

Advanced Torah Cantillation class

Taught by Ruth Rainero

Wednesday, September 10, 7 - 9:30 pm

Ruth Rainero will teach a class on the musicality and phrasing of trope. Learn to express the Torah text through subtle variations in rhythm and melodic emphasis. This class is for those who already

know a vocabulary of trope signs — in any musical tradition. Participants should prepare as follows:

- Learn to chant four to six lines of text, preferably containing a variety of trope signs.
- Be aware of the clauses.
- Translate your text into English, both literally (i.e. word for word) and as prose.
- Please bring a Tikkun and a notebook.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Ruth (rainero@jps.net or 415/681-0180). To register for the class, please contact Melanie Kushnir (415/861-6932 x305 or mkushnir@shaarzahav.org).

Ushers Needed

There's still time to sign up to usher at High Holiday services. Be the first to meet and greet everyone who comes to services. If you'd like to help contact Mike Klayman (Mike_Klayman@excite.com or 415/695-0965), Ina Turpen-Fried (tomgirl@aol.com or 415/437-6869) or Karen Schiller (kschiller@igc.org or 415/550-0637).

Tales of the Sages: A Talmud Class

Taught by Ruth Haber

Wednesdays, October 22 through November 12, 7 - 9 pm

"In many ways the Talmud is the most important book in Jewish culture, the backbone of creativity and of national life. No other work has had a comparable influence on the theory and practice of Jewish life."

- Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz

The Babylonian Talmud is a richly varied text containing not only rabbinic arguments, but also stories about the sages themselves. In these tales, time slows down to give us a glimpse of a single moment or speeds up, telescoping much of a life story into a single vivid episode. Our readings will focus on the relationships among the sages, with their complex bonds of devotion, antagonism and deference. Then we will zoom out to view the context of these tales, considering the sometimes quite subtle connections between each story and the *sugyah* in which it appears (a *sugyah* is a discussion of a specific point where rabbis present their varying views on the issue at hand).

The class will be taught by Ruth Haber, a doctoral student and instructor in the field of Rabbinics at the UC Berkeley - Graduate Theological Union Program in Jewish Studies. Ruth's work focuses on *aggadah* (loosely defined as 'non-legal' or halakhah material) - the stories of the Talmud and midrashim - with a special focus on the form and fabric of these tales. As Ruth puts it, "Each aggadic text bears not only the story it tells, but another half-hidden tale - that of its own history. The mixed texture of gemara narrative shimmers with threads of the rich and varied sources from which it is woven."

Whether you have little or no understanding of this Talmudic "sea of knowledge" or diligently do your *daf yomi* (the daily page) of study, please join us for this opportunity to explore a portion of Judaism's central pillar of learning. Cost for this class is \$36 for members, \$72 for nonmembers. For information or to register, please contact Melanie Kushnir (415/861-6932 x305 or mkushnir@shaarzahav.org).

How We Respond in the Face of Conflict: An Interfaith Panel

Thursday, September 4, 7:30 - 9 pm

San Francisco Zen Center, 300 Page Street

Please join clergy and religious practitioners, including Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian (of all denominations) and Jewish for this important roundtable discussion. The central questions are all variations of one: "How shall we, as people of faith, find meaning and solace in times of war and other tragedy?" The question of a primary response, not first as political activism, but within our own hearts, will be the subject of this evening's discussion.

For more information, please contact Melanie Kushnir (415/861-6932 x305 or mkushnir@shaarzahav.org).

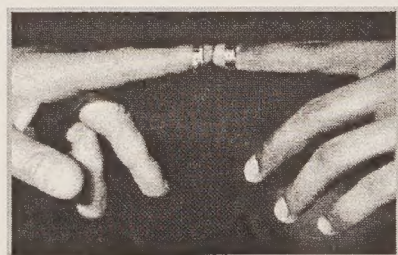
Second Monthly Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, September 19

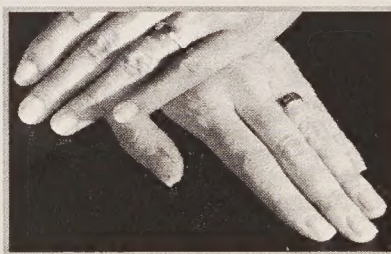
Join us on September 19 as we continue our monthly service featuring the beautiful musical talents of the Kabbalat Shabbat Ensemble directed by Marsha Attie. Singing together creates a sense of belonging and a commonality of experience. Sacred music connects us to our heritage, our history and K'lal Yisrael - the

Jewish people everywhere. Come to services and welcome in Shabbat with song!

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From Whitney Leader-Picone, Our Kohn Summer Intern

I walked up from the 16th and Mission BART station completely nervous, and I am staying completely happy. I started my internship here at Sha'ar Zahav with little idea of my responsibilities and little faith in my own abilities. I arrived at the beautiful synagogue and was greeted immediately by the smiling faces of Rabbi Angel and Program Director Melanie Kushnir. I knew at that moment that my experience here would be wonderful. I love the congregants who, even though my stay here was going to be brief, embraced me as part of the community. And I am proud of the work I did and the help I gave to this wonderful staff. I look forward to the next seven weeks here, not as an intern, but as part of the staff and the community.

Pinat Yeladim Umishpachah

Children and Family Corner

Family Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, September 12, 6:15 pm

Jewish storytelling by Joe Hample

Meet, eat, sing and celebrate Shabbat with CSZ families and then stay for Friday night services. Families with children of all ages are encouraged to come. Dinner is vegetarian potluck; please bring a dish to share. No RSVP required. Be a part of the *ruach* (spirit) of our community and invite friends and family to join you. Shabbat Shalom!

Baby Chavurah

Sunday, September 14, 10 am to noon

Bring those under-tuos out to play, sing and commune with like-minded babes and their parents. Join us for potluck brunch, playtime and socializing. This month we meet at the synagogue. Please bring your baby and a vegetarian dish. Older siblings

are welcome, as are nonmembers. Baby Chavurah meets the second Sunday of each month.

Tot Shabbat

Saturday, September 20,
10:30 am to noon

Come celebrate Shabbat with your tot. Bring your two to five year olds for singing, prayer, storytelling, crafts and family Jewish fun with Sandra Menachem, Early Childhood Education Specialist. Younger siblings and nonmembers are welcome. Tot Shabbat meets the last Saturday of the month.

Back to School Night

Monday, September 15, 7 - 8:30pm

Come to Back to School Night and get to know your children's teachers and their curriculum for the year. Learn about new curriculum initiatives and program devel-

opments. Find out about the plans of the Experiment in Congregational Education Taskforce. Share your ideas for the coming year. Schmooze with other parents. For childcare, RSVP by Wednesday, September 10.

High Holiday Childcare Information,
see page 1.

Contact Sue Bojdak, Director of
Family and Children's Education,
(415/861-6932 x 302 or
educator@shaarzahav.org)
for more information about any of
these programs or to RSVP.

Kadimah begins Saturday, September 6

Midweek Hebrew begins
Wednesday, September 10

There is NO KADIMAH on
September 27, which is Rosh Hashanah

Group for

Non-Biological Parents

Led by Stacey Shuster, PhD

Mondays, October 13 - November 17,
7 - 8:30 pm

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is a unique and vibrant community that welcomes a variety of family structures. This group is a support group for non-biological parents, which includes any parents who have not given birth to their child(ren). This CSZ members-only group will meet for seven weekly sessions and is free of charge. Member Stacey Shuster, a licensed psychologist, will be facilitating the group. To register or for more information, please contact Melanie Kushnir (415/861-6932 x305 or mkushnir@shaarzahav.org).

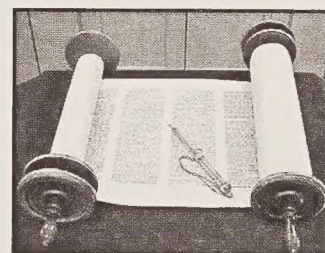
Everyone Has a Story

**Talking to Our Kids About Their
Origins: Adoption and
Modern Donor Technologies in
Our Jewish Families**

On Saturday, October 11, following Shabbat services, Sha'ar Zahav will host a panel discussion. It will focus on the language and social context we draw upon to speak with kids about their origins, taking into account birth parenting, adoption and new donor technologies. Jonathan Pannor, a member of our congregation and a well-known counselor and group facilitator in this field, will join Rabbi Angel and others to explore traditional and contemporary Judaic perspectives on childrens' origins: when and how kids should be informed; the language of acceptance amongst friends, family and community; how kids integrate and carry forth their stories with them; and how Jewish communal life can play a supportive role. Please join us for this practical and enriching exploration of our family's lives and hear from others what they've experienced. Watch CSZ's weekly emails for further details.

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Daveners and Doers

by Prudence Carter

This month I interviewed Joss Eldredge, co-chair of the Adult Education Committee. Joss is one of the three members of Adult Education. That's right folks, only three members – Ron Edelman, Steve Mazer and Joss – plan all the programs to meet the adult education needs of our community. When we chatted about Adult Education and what Joss would like to see happen in the committee, well, you guessed it – Joss would like more committee members. So, after reading about Joss's vision for adult education, consider giving them a shout. This committee is fun, lively and, most of all, the work you become involved in will be appreciated by all.

CSZ: How did you become involved with the Education Committee?

JE: I had not been a member of a synagogue for a number of years. Somehow, I just had fallen away. Then I discovered CSZ and started attending services. I found the community interesting for many reasons, the first being that, as a gay person, I felt at home with CSZ. I drew my mother into CSZ and we have been members for about four years. Several years ago, I attended the community seder where Ron Edelman asked me to consider being the co-chair of Adult Education. As a tradeswoman, I was involved early on with editing a trade magazine, so the involvement part was natural. Being cautious, I told Ron that I would get back to him. After about 10 minutes, I said yes.

CSZ: What in your Jewish background attracted you to education?

JE: I converted to Judaism when I was fifteen and part of being Jewish is living a Jewish life. I have a sense that what I am doing in education is part of lifelong learning. Through Jewish education, an awareness transpires that the separation between who you are at work and who you are at shul really does not exist. There exists an integration, a sense that what I am doing is part of who I am. Learning is just a part of my life. People should always have a Jewish book on their pile of books.

CSZ: What is your vision for adult education?

JE: I would like to see the definition of adult education and learning know no boundaries. I would like to see education extend beyond panel discussions and classes to encompass perhaps getting together to see a play and afterwards for some food and discussion. Another thought is to have adult education reach outside the community, thereby giving others an opportunity to look through a Jewish lens to make sense of their experience. This would also provide our community with a chance to see life through a different lens as well. For example The Isaiah Project brought together a Caucasian Jew and an African-American GI for an oral history event presented at two schools. The Jewish woman was a survivor and the GI liberated people from the camps.

CSZ: What is the role of the community and the rabbi in supporting Jewish education?

JE: For the community, it's a willingness to come forward with their ideas, attend classes and participate in the development of an adult education program. Rabbi Angel has been so supportive and has been a great director in guiding us.



Joss Eldredge, prior to becoming co-chair of the Adult Education Committee.

CSZ: So what keeps you energized and what are your favorite Jewish books in your pile?

JE: Well, each day I do something to keep me connected to education and personal learning, whether it is reading something, giving a little time every day on a project or exploring an idea on the computer for the fall and spring classes. I don't have a favorite book because there are so many; however, to name just a few currently by the bedside – *The Essential Talmud*, *Female and Jewish in America*, and *Godwrestling*.

Introducing Jay Miller, Interim Executive Director

It is a pleasure for me to have the opportunity to serve as the Interim Executive Director of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

For the past ten years, I have served as the interim executive director of seven non-profit community organizations. I have also filled interim positions at the Bureau of Jewish Education and other congregations. At Sha'ar Zahav, I look forward to bridging my organizational and congregational experience.

I have appreciated meeting many of you who have come by to say hello. The recent leadership advance provided me with extended time to get to know officers and committee chairs.

I want to think everyone on the staff who has so capably oriented me to the daily life of the congregation. It is a special privilege to be able to work with Rabbi Angel.

In the months I will be part of this community, I will be assisting in the coordination of the ongoing activity of the congregation. I also hope to share in examining the transitional issues which are a regular part of any dynamic organization and particularly a congregational community.

If you want to reach me, my email is jmiller@shaarzahav.org and I am at extension 308.

Long-Range Planning

The Long-Range Planning Committee will be hosting a series of intimate gatherings to engage members in refining CSZ's mission as we embark on our next 25 years. We need your help to articulate powerfully our synagogue's vision, including our unique role in healing the world.

These will be fun, engaging and vital discussions. We look forward to your joyful and enthusiastic response to our invitation. We want to make sure we don't leave anyone out. If, for some reason, you don't hear from us by the end of September, please contact Claudia Bernard (claudia_bernard@comcast.net).



Exploring Argentina

by Annie Downs

Being a Jewish teenager means exploring options. There are so many paths to follow and innumerable forks along each path. Judaism has always been a valuable part of my life and it is both a blessing and a responsibility that I am growing old enough to navigate my own path. Though Sha'ar Zahav will always play a significant role in my Judaism, over the past year I began to search for additional places to learn about and express my Judaism. The answer came to me in the form of the Diller Teen Fellowship.

The Fellowship is a program for high school juniors, designed to teach us how to become active leaders in our communities. We meet monthly for workshops, have several weekend retreats and have a three-week summer seminar. Recent violence in Israel has necessitated moving the seminar to other parts of the world.

Perhaps the freedom we were given in planning projects was what allowed us to discover our own leadership skills. The projects included a presentation at Holocaust Remembrance Day at the Jewish High School, a building project on a plot of land called Derech Eretz, the teen tent at Israel in the Gardens and, lastly, a community service project to be performed during our summer seminar in Argentina.

No matter how exciting all of the projects were, the trip to Argentina was undoubtedly the highlight of the program. It was a time to put everything we learned to use, in addition to cementing our friendships and Spanish skills. Perhaps most importantly, it put our materialistic, sheltered society into perspective. Argentina is a nation that is struggling with economic collapse caused partly by an impossibly corrupt government. Yet it is also a dignified and beautiful country filled with culture. The trip was about social service for the benefit of Argentine citizens, but it was also a learning experience for all of the Diller teens.

We learned about Argentine culture when we visited famous sites like the Teatro Colón, world-renowned for its perfect acoustics and beautiful architecture. We learned about politics when we visited the Plaza de Mayo, where crowds often gather to protest the corrupt government that ignored bombings of important Jewish sites like the Israeli embassy, and where mothers gather to mourn the children who were kidnapped during the military junta. We learned about economics when we met with seniors whose savings had been lost when the banks froze all the money and who

are now living on the equivalent of 50 dollars a month provided by the government.

We learned about compassion when we donated our clothes to clothing closets where people can go who cannot afford to purchase new clothes of their own and when we distributed medicine and food to the impoverished. We learned about friendship when we bonded with Argentine teens who took us dancing and showed us that teens all over the world are similar. We learned about grace when we took tango lessons. And most importantly, we learned never to take what we have for granted, for it can vanish in the blink of an eye.

Just as the city's non-stop lifestyle began to set in, we were given the perfect chance to reflect: a weeklong backpacking trip in the Andes. The hike tested each of us in different ways. For some, it tested their ability to offer help and for others it tested their ability to ask for it. When 50 mile per hour winds blew half of our tents down it was an opportunity to bond in the way you can only when crammed together like sardines. There was certainly no sleeping on that night although there was lots of singing and laughing.

There were other misadventures as well. A man on a horse, dubbed "The Night Rider," stole two backpacks. A girl sat on a cactus and had to have the spikes picked out with tweezers. We struggled with sleeping on hills and rolling out of the bottomless tents. And yet I look upon all these memories fondly, for they brought us all closer together, as we laughed our way through each obstacle and kept on going.

The most magical time of all was the Shabbat we spent at our campsite above the clouds. We sang, rested and studied. We relished the natural beauty around us, knowing that soon we would leave not only the gorgeous Andes Mountains, but also the amazing country. Yet even then we knew our journey would continue. There will always be new paths laid before us and new forks to choose. The friendships we made and skills we learned will only help us along the way.



Pride 2003

This year, CSZ celebrated Pride with a large, enthusiastic contingent. More than 50 Sha'ar Zahavniks, along with family and friends, showed up to march in SF Pride's 25th anniversary parade. Since it was also CSZ's 25th anniversary, we marched near the front of the parade. Some of our members assisted in carrying the large rainbow flag, while others carried Sha'ar Zahav banners and signs. Mark Gershman was the unofficial CSZ cheerleader and motivator, while Adam Bellm-Kahn and Evan Arnold Martin proudly led the entire contingent down Market Street. Parade highlights included Armistead Maupin shouting "Shalom, Sha'ar Zahav" and Rabbi Angel leading Israeli dancing along the route.



October Deadline: Tuesday, September 2, 5pm

Articles

Advertising

Please submit your articles as a Word attachment via email to: froslyn@shaarzahav.org. *No late submissions will be accepted.* To place a display ad, contact Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@earthlink.net). To place a classified ad, call the office.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Elul 4 Labor Day	2 7 - 9 pm Self-Actualizing into the Jewish New Year	3 6	4 7 7:30 - 9 pm Interfaith Panel at the SF Zen Center 7 pm JGF editing	5 8 6:30 pm Welcome Dinner 8:15 pm Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel and Tsipora Prochovnick	6 9 Ki Teze: Deut. 21:10-25:19 9 am Torah Study 9:30 am Kadimah 10 am Shabbat Services 7 pm Open House
7 10 7 pm JGF proofing	8 11	9 12 7 - 9 pm Self-Actualizing into the Jewish New Year	10 13 4 pm Midweek Kadimah 7 - 9:30 pm Advanced Torah Cantillation	11 14 6:30 - 9 pm Va'ad Meeting	12 15 6:15 pm Family Shabbat Dinner 7:30 pm Shabbat Services led by Larry Wexler	13 16 Ki Tavo: Deut. 26:1-29:8 9 am Torah Study 9:30 am Kadimah 10 am Shabbat Services

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
14 17	15 18	16 19	17 20	18 21	19 22	20 23
10 am Baby Chavurah	7 pm Back to School Night	7 - 9 pm Self-Actualizing into the Jewish New Year	4 pm Midweek Kadimah 3 pm Most Holy Redeemer Meal 7 pm High Holiday Usher Training	6:30 pm Ritual Committee	1 pm Tenderloin Lunch 7:30 pm Shabbat Service led by Kabbalat Shabbat Ensemble	Nitzavim-Vayelech: Deut. 29:9-31:30 9 am Torah Study 9:30 am Kadimah 10 am Shabbat Services led by Ora and Tsipora Prochovnick 10:30 am Tot Shabbat 9 pm Selichot
21 24	22 25	23 26	24 27	25 28	26 29	27 Tishrei 1
10 am High Holiday Usher Training			4 pm Midweek Kadimah		Erev Rosh Hashanah at Lowell High School	Rosh Hashanah at Lowell High School
28 2	29 3	30 4				
Rosh Hashanah at CSZ						



Social Action Connection

Celebrate and Strengthen Social Activism

The upcoming months will provide several opportunities to reflect on, celebrate and renew our connection to social activism.

In light of the historic Lawrence decision by the Supreme Court finding sodomy laws unconstitutional, we have the opportunity to reflect on how much conditions for LGBT people have changed.

But change doesn't just happen: it happens because of individuals joining together and taking action.

Yom Kippur Afternoon Discussion Group on Social Action: As we look with clarity on the year gone by and strengthen ourselves for the year ahead, we will reflect on the role of tikkun olam in our lives.

Shabbat Sukkot Shalom: Join us on Friday, October 10 for our second annual social action-oriented Shabbat service. We especially welcome those of you who have participated in CSZ social action projects. Rabbi Angel will co-lead the service.

November 1 Retrospective Panel: During this year's Congregational Advance, we will have a chance to reflect on 25 years of LGBT activism, linked with 25 years of our synagogue's existence. Please join us on November 1 to listen to and participate in this conversation. To help develop this event, contact AJ Turpen (ajsparkles@mac.com).

Exploring New Directions in Tikkun Olam

We are currently forming a committee to explore doing more concerted internal organizing around our members' social justice concerns and joining with other congregations in pursuing shared goals at the citywide level. The San Francisco Organizing Project offers a possible vehicle for this. In July, the Va'ad approved the formation of an exploratory committee, with a recommendation due back to them in late 2003. Stay tuned for more details, but in the meantime contact susanlubeck@aol.com if you want to know more or get involved.

Upcoming Opportunities to Serve

Tenderloin Lunch: September 19, 1 pm. Please RSVP to Allan Berenstein (415/863-8033 or sfdaytimer@aol.com).

Dinner with Homeless Neighbors: Every Wednesday, you can do service at Most Holy Redeemer in the Castro. Show up any time between 3 pm and 9 pm to join a dedicated and inspiring

community of people, and make connections with homeless neighbors. For more information, contact Susan (susanlubeck@aol.com or 510/531-7660).

Help Organize Our Project Open Hand Efforts: Every year we relieve regular Open Hand volunteers over Christmas. This popular service opportunity requires some coordinating. Can you help? Please contact Susan (susanlubeck@aol.com) or AJ (ajsparkles@mac.com) soon!

Thank You and Goodbye

by Caryn Aviv

It's hard to believe that four years have passed since I first walked through the doors of Sha'ar Zahav. As many of you know, I'm moving to Denver where I'll be working as the Director of Program Development with Mosaic: The National Jewish Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity, a non-profit organization I recently co-founded with former Sha'ar Zahavniks David Shneer and Gregg Drinkwater, and teaching at the University of Denver in the Center for Judaic Studies and the Department of Sociology.

CSZ has been home in so many ways. Sha'ar Zahav is where I learned it was possible to be queer and Jewish; where I convinced David Shneer to work together on Queer Jews; where I met many members of the International Gay Jewish Mah Jongg Conspiracy and where deep friendships were forged that will last into the future. It has been a pleasure and an honor to teach Kadimah, work with students, parents and other educators and CSZ staff. I have learned a tremendous amount from the teens of the Madrichim program by studying Jewish text and attending the annual Religious Action Center conference in Washington D.C. with them and Rabbi Angel. And how could I ever forget One Hundred Dates in One Night, Chanukah Karaoke, Purim mayhem, marching in the Pride parade, leyning torah with my elder mentors Phyllis Mintzer and Batya Kalis by my side, studying with Rabbi Benay Lappe, Shabbat services, ECE meetings and many, many other adventures? I'm deeply thankful for all the experiences and memories I shared with this amazing community.

While it's very sad and difficult to leave San Francisco, I will be back often through work with Mosaic. The goal of Mosaic is to partner with Jewish organizations, communities and individuals across the country, to create a world where all Jews are fully included in Jewish communal life, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is a pioneer and leader in this movement to create inclusive Jewish communities, and I'm looking forward to working with others in this capacity. Thank you for everything!

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From the Jewish Toolkit

Swimming in the Sea of Talmud

The Bible, or Written Torah, is the foundation of Jewish law and life. But while it contains an abundance of broad principles, it's actually rather skimpy on explanations or instructions. "Bind the words of Torah as a sign on your hand." "Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy." Words to live by – but how?

The interpretations and legal decrees of the sages filled in those practical details to make the Written Torah applicable to everyday life. These teachings joined together to form a body of literature that was studied and passed on orally, and so became known as the Oral Torah. The most important and well-known components of the Oral Torah are the Mishnah, a collection of succinct legal opinions, and the Gemarah, a commentary on the Mishnah. Together, the Mishnah and Gemarah make up the Talmud

Now, if you've ever seen a heavy tome of Talmud, you might point out that the "oral" Torah appears – quite suspiciously – to be written down (the Jewish Tool Kit's readers are an astute bunch). Yes, it's true. Circumstances eventually demanded that the Mishnah be transcribed, lest it be forgotten. So in about 200 C.E., four hundred years of oral text was codified into the written Mishnah. Commentary on the Mishnah continued orally for another three centuries, and was then itself compiled into the Gemarah, which was written in the vernacular Aramaic instead of Hebrew.

The Talmud follows the structure of the Mishnah: Six "orders" (*sefer* in Hebrew) of laws pertaining to agriculture, festivals, women, money, holy things, and ritual purity, are divided into 63 "tractates" (*masechet*), which are divided into chapters (*perek*). A small selection from a chapter is a *sugiyah*. So, you'll hear a phrase like "a sugiyah from the second perek of masechet Shabbat," which means a selection from the second chapter of the tractate Shabbat.

The Talmud is a mysterious creature, whose now-written format belies its true nature as an oral work. Structurally, a few lines of law in the Mishnah are stated, then subjected to legal analysis by the Gemarah. But that analysis can stretch far and wide, from topic to topic, into pages of arguments, anecdotes and parables, about law, history, science, spirituality, philosophy – sometimes returning to the original legal point, sometimes abandoning it altogether. For the Talmud is not a legal code. It's a *dialogue* between sages who lived centuries apart; it's a conversation already in progress, about an internal system whose meaning and context

are assumed but never stated. So vast is the Talmud that it has been compared to the sea. And to swim in the Sea of Talmud is to *participate* in the very process by which our tradition has been shaped. Dive in!

Comments about the Jewish Tool Kit can be sent to JewishToolKit@attglobal.net.

Rabbi Angel's Recommended Readings



The Talmud for Beginners (3 vols) by Judith Z. Abrams. Jason Aronson Publishers.

World of the Talmud by Elizabeth and Morris Adler. Schocken Books.

Talmud for Everyday Living: Employer-Employee Relations by Hillel Gamoran. UAH Press.

The Essential Talmud by Adin Steinsaltz. Basic Books.

A Tiny Editorial Addendum to the Jewish Tool Kit

The JTK should point out that it was probably inconceivable to the "authors" of the Talmud that it would be ever be studied by women, let alone proud queer folk like us. Rabbi Angel suggests – and the JTK concurs – that we therefore have a calling to create a more inclusive editorial board, whose comments and insights are collected and integrated into the body of "talmud" we pass down to the next generation. CSZ's upcoming Talmud class and Queer Torah Project are just two of many educational opportunities to start making that happen. (See page 4 for more information).

First Friday Welcome Dinner

Friday, September 5, 6:30 pm

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What a Great Party It Was!

CSZ's 25th anniversary party was a tremendous success with over 235 people in attendance. We celebrated Havdalah, danced the night away, ate fabulous food and listened to a few speeches of praise and delight in our success. Thank you to the entire CSZ membership, community, friends and family who made our anniversary celebration a grand event. See you at our 30th!

We especially appreciate the hard work and diligence of the planning committee: Co-chairs Terrett Drake and Sharyn Saslafsky, and members Richard Allman, Prudence Carter, Jeff Forman, Alan Foss, Kevin Johnson, Mark Mackler, Nancella Ribak Farmer and Joel Springer. Thanks also to Marc Wernick, Karen Schiller, Nathan Robinson and the CSZ staff for all their help.

If you were unable to attend the celebration, please contact the synagogue office to receive your program book. A delightful look at the history of CSZ awaits you.



Ray Bernstein and Hershey Hirschkop



Dafna Wu, Ruby Cymrot-Wu and Barbara Cymrot



Daphne Stuart, Lyssa Friedman and Bob Gutterman

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25th Anniversary Donation

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Phyllis and George Mintzer

- in appreciation of being a part of this sacred community.

Adult Education Donation

Robert Morelli

- in honor of Paul Cohen.

Bikkur Cholim Fund

Robert Morelli

- in honor of Rabbi Eric Weiss.

Children's Education Fund

Allan Berenstein

- in honor of Phyllis and George Mintzer's 60th wedding anniversary.

Alan Michels and Laureen Kim

- in honor of Joe Hample.
- in honor of Harold and Barbara Michels.
- in memory of Alfred and Laura Kim.

Fund for the Future

Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman

- in memory of Murray Zuckerman.

Deborah Udin and Lucy Cefalu

- in honor of Susan Shallit.

Jonathan Funk

- in honor of Evan Arnold-Gordon.

Arthur Slepian and Gerry Llamado

- in honor of Lyssa, Daphne and Anna Thi on the occasion of Anna's naming.

Ami Zusman

- in honor of Lisa Katz' dedication to, and leadership of, the CSZ community.

James Carlson

- in memory of Edyth Wexler.

General Fund

Allan Berenstein

- in memory of Perel Berenstein.

Daniel Goldberg and Tanette Goldberg

- in honor of Ron and Ruth Miguel's 50th wedding anniversary.

Marc Lipschutz

- in honor of James Carlson.
- in honor of Gail Ludwig.
- in honor of Joe Hample and Larry Wong.

Marcia Meister

- in honor of Ron and Ruth Miguel's 50th wedding anniversary.

Irene Ogus

- in honor of Pru Carter and Marianne Balin.

Jeffrey Piade

- in honor of Gabriel Rainer Oliver-Polsky.

Jeff Sherman

- in honor of Gabriel Rainer Oliver-Polsky.
- in memory of Edyth Wexler.

Richard Sinkoff

- in memory of Barbara Fisher.

John Arnold and Evan Arnold Gordon

- in honor of Jonathan Funk's birthday.

Barbara Becker and Ellen Press.

Shari Chamitoff

- in memory of Edyth Wexler.

David and Bernice Hanak

- in honor of Ron and Ruth Miguel's 50th wedding anniversary.

Tom Holt and Steve Elman

- in honor of the birthdays of Carolyn Pines, Hannah and Emma Pines-Schwartz.

Tom Holt

- in honor of Steve Elman.

Elizabeth Katz and LeeAnn Thompson

- in memory of Joseph Katz' yahrzeit.

Mark Mackler and Wendell Choo

- in honor of Phyllis and George Mintzer's 60th wedding anniversary.

Herman Rosenbaum

- in honor of Steve Elman's thoughtful and eloquent statement to the court.

Ami Zusman

- in memory of Edyth Wexler.
- in honor of Dev Felder Noily's acceptance into rabbinic school.
- in honor of the arrival of Anna Thi Stuart-Friedman.
- in honor of Phyllis and George Mintzer's 60th wedding anniversary.
- in honor of Reuben Zellman's acceptance into rabbinic school.

Inclusive Liturgy Fund

Batya Kalis

- in honor of her 80th birthday.

Library Fund

Neil Hart and David Wasserman

- in memory of Syd Feldman.

Mishkan Donation

Allan Berenstein

- in honor of James Carlson.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Larry Best and Ming Leung.

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- in honor of Rabbi Camille Angel.

Miriam Trentman

- in honor of Rabbi Camille Angel.

Allan Berenstein

- in memory of Alex Konski, Bill Schlichter and Jay Feinstein.

Batya Kalis

- in honor of Miriam Trentman and Bob Morelli's wedding.

Herbert Meier

- in memory of Edyth Wexler.

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In honor of Batya Kalis's 80th Birthday

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Marc Lipschutz.

Alan and Jacqueline Manne.

Robert Morelli.

Miriam Trentman.

Lonnie Weiss.

Ami Zusman.

Condolences

Phyllis and George Mintzer, on the loss of their friend, Deborah Kranzler.

Jerry Polansky, on the loss of his father, David L. Polansky.

Robert Tat, on the loss of his uncle, Marshall Peal.

Richard Meyerson, on the loss of his friend, Lenny Girvitz.

Robert Tat, on the loss of his great-aunt, Fanny Tatt.

Miriam Trentman, on the loss of her aunt, Katherine Connett.

Robert Daroff, on the loss of his grandfather, Ronald S. Abrahams.

Larry Best, on the loss of his grandmother, Lilly Klein.

Terrett Drake, on the loss of his step-grandmother, Betty Gordon Connoloy.

Toiletry Collection

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav has an ongoing toiletry collection which we donate to homeless shelters. Please drop off all of your unused toiletries in the big red bin next to the information table outside the oneg room; hotel-size items are especially welcome. Our toiletry collection has benefited many local community agencies and is an easy way to do a mitzvah!



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Naches



Red Bennett on the occasion of his naming.

Daphne Stuart and Lyssa Friendman on welcoming their daughter, **Anna Thi Stuart-Friedman**, into the covenant.

Terry Fletcher on the completion of her radiation treatments for breast cancer. Terry wishes to thank all the CSZ members who provided support to her during this time.

Nancella Ribak and Aaron Farmer on the occasion of their wedding.

Randy Blaustein and Rachael Reiley on the occasion of their b'not mitzvah.

Rabbi Angel and Karen Segal on Rabbi Angel's legal adoption of **Lilah Rose Angel**.

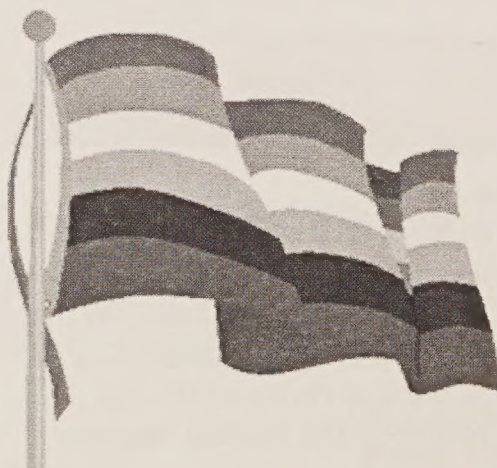
Sue Bojdak and Deb Yates on Sue's legal adoption of **Naftali Ilan Bojdak-Yates**.

Tsipora Prochovnick on having her model house exhibited at the Architecture and Youth Exhibit at One Market Street.

Shayna Prochovnick for helping lead a conflict resolution workshop at the Shorties in Action Service Learning Youth Summit.

Jonathan Pannor and Mike Watenpaugh on the formal adoption of **Samuel John Jamal Pannor-Watenpaugh**.

Rabbi Yoel Kahn on being named the Director of the Taube Center for Jewish Life at the Jewish Community Center of San Francisco. He will also



be serving as interim rabbi of Congregation Shir Shalom in Sonoma.

Alison Gilbert, Membership Assistant at CSZ, on being accepted into the graduate program for Media and Public Affairs at George Washington University in Washington, DC. We thank her for her many contributions to our community.

James Carlson on his new position as the Executive Director of Peninsula Temple Sholom in Burlingame. He will also be rejoining the ranks of CSZ membership. We thank him for his tour of duty as CSZ's Interim ED, and wish him the best in his new position.

Gail Ludwig, Clarissa Kripke and their son, **Rami Harel Kripke-Ludwig**, on the purchase of their first house

Miriam Trentman and Bob Morelli, on the occasion of their wedding.

Gabriel Press-Becker on becoming a bar mitzvah.

Rebecca Goldfader and her partner, **Kate Alfieri**, on the occasion of their engagement.

Mike Rankin on being invited to speak at the Library of Congress about his experiences as a gay Navy medical officer. As part of the "Veterans' Voices Project," staff of the Library interviewed Mike and other veterans. These videotaped interviews will be part of the permanent record of the Library. Mike has also been appointed to the Honorary Board of the Service Members Legal Defense Network, which seeks to assist lesbians and gay men harmed by the "Don't Ask Don't Tell" policy.

David and Gregory Ramos, on the purchase of their first house.

Dev, Sara, and Jesse Felder Noily, on their move to Philadelphia in order for Dev to begin rabbinical school.

Rebecca Doctors, daughter of **Judith Cohen**, on being accepted to present her research in September on "Using Computational Methods and In Vitro Testing to Identify Novel Epitopes in Epstein-Barr Virus" at a Cold Spring Harbor Meeting on "Microbial Pathogenesis and Host Response."

Birthdays



- 1 Gabby Volodarsky
- 1 Lorraine Locke-Nacamulli
- 1 Vincent Williams
- 2 Magaret Crow Rosenfeld
- 2 Jeff Friedman
- 2 Harry Bernholz
- 2 Jonathan Crosby
- 2 Kelly Cytron
- 3 Nancy Halloran
- 3 Tommy Escarcega
- 5 Ari Rosenberg
- 6 Cynthia Navarro
- 6 Tamira Elul
- 7 Alvin Baum
- 7 Richard Brand
- 8 Barbara Leff
- 8 Ellen Press
- 9 Rachel Field
- 9 Edward Lopatin
- 9 Suzanne London
- 10 Sandy O'Neill
- 10 Ellen Berger
- 10 Norman Abramson
- 11 Jeffrey Adler
- 11 Jeffrey Levin
- 11 Lele Field
- 11 Scott Adler
- 11 Lawrence Helman
- 12 Nicole Bloom
- 13 Paul Margolis
- 13 Eva Rosenbaum
- 14 Sion Isaacs
- 14 Kipp Leyser
- 15 Mark Oliver
- 19 Sofia Klain-Chavez
- 19 Rebecca Goldfader
- 19 Robert Tat
- 20 Mark Klaiman
- 20 Rachel Timoner
- 20 Dorothy Querido
- 20 Elizabeth Katz
- 22 Charles Fineberg
- 22 Raena Frohlich
- 22 Roslyn Fuerman
- 23 Steven Schey
- 24 Mark Leno
- 26 Jeffrey Forman
- 26 Sophie Rinkoff-Murland
- 28 Daphne Stuart
- 28 James Frazin
- 28 Arthur Cohen
- 29 Judith Wolfe
- 29 Carol Dawson
- 29 Simon Glinsky
- 30 Eric Zigas
- 30 Lisa Ochs

Anniversaries



- 1 Jeffrey Rubin and Frank Bush
- 4 Deborah Udin and Lucy Cefalu
- 4 Alan Michels and Laureen Kim
- 13 Sara and Devra Felder Noily
- 18 Judith Klain and Pam Shimizu
- 19 Richard Inlander and Benjamin Schalit
- 30 Susan Unger and Pamela Erwin

Oneg, Flower and Childcare Sponsorships



6/6

Bimah flowers were sponsored by **Sophie Kulbersh** in celebration of Nancella Ribak and Aaron Farmer's wedding.

Oneg was sponsored by **Abe and Myra Ribak** in celebration of Nancella Ribak and Aaron Farmer's wedding.

Childcare was sponsored by **Rabbi Angel and Karen Segal** and **Sue Bojdak and Debra Yates** in honor of the adoptions of Lilah and Naftali.

6/7

Oneg was sponsored by **Dev Felder Noily** and **Rachel Timoner** in honor of the b'not mitzvah of Rachael Reiley and Randy Blaustein.

6/13

Bimah flowers were sponsored by **Michael Sarid** in memory of his friend Gil de Silva.

Friday Oneg was sponsored by **Seth Skolnick** in honor of his being selected as the Jewish Community Federation's 2003-04 Federation Fellow.

Saturday Oneg was sponsored by **Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart** in honor of the naming of their daughter, Anna Thi Stuart-Friedman.

6/20

Bimah flowers were sponsored by **James Carlson** in honor of Lisa Katz and Arthur Slepian.

Childcare was sponsored by **James Carlson** in honor of the CSZ staff.

6/27

Bimah flowers were sponsored by **Avi Goldberg and Will Garcia** in honor of Will's sister, Lupe Flores.

Oneg was sponsored by **Arthur Slepian and Lisa Katz** in honor of James Carlson.

Childcare was sponsored by **Susan Unger** in memory of Grace Friedman Unger.

7/4

Bimah flowers were sponsored by the **Press-Becker** family in honor of Gabriel Jacob Press-Becker becoming bar mitzvah.

Oneg was sponsored by **Lisa Szer** in memory of Chaim Szer.

Saturday Oneg was sponsored by the **Press-Becker** family in honor of Gabriel Jacob Press-Becker becoming bar mitzvah.

7/11

"Shabbat Batya" was sponsored by **Ann Aptaker, Allan Berenstein, Rose-Anne Donner, Jim Frazin, Rose Katz, Rachel Maclachlan, Andrew Ramer, Karen Schiller, Miriam Trentman, Lonnie Weiss, Ami Zusman** in honor of Batya Kalis's 80th birthday.

7/25

Bimah flowers were sponsored by **Ron and Ruth Miguel** in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Oneg was sponsored by **Ron and Ruth Miguel** in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.

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Yahrzeits

- 1 John Golebowski
- 5 Bernard Pechter
- 15 David Pierce
- 18 Penny Dachinger
- 19 Gershon Lieberman
- 25 Jeffrey Lewis Cohen
- 27 Drew Siegel

Classifieds

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CSZ Staff

Rabbi

Camille Shira Angel (x301)
• rabbianangel@shaarzahav.org

Interim Executive Director

Jay Miller (x308)
• jmiller@shaarzahav.org

Program Director

Melanie Kushnir (x305)
• mkushnir@shaarzahav.org

Director of Children's and Family Education

Sue Bojdak (x302)
• educator@shaarzahav.org

Kadimah Head Teacher

Phyllis Mintzer

Administrative Assistant

Steven Angelides (x304)
• steven@shaarzahav.org

Rabbi's Assistant

Gabby Volodarsky (x310)
• gabby@shaarzahav.org

Officers

President, Arthur Slepian
(415/452-9143)
cszpres@pacbell.net
Vice President, Rose Katz
Vice President, Alex Ingersoll
Treasurer, Gail Ludwig
Recorder, Karen Schiller

Va'ad Board Members

Lisa Katz (ex officio)
Marianne Balin
Barbara Cymrot
Ron Edelman
Tony Harris
Leslie Kane
Ron Miguel
Drew Parker-Rose
Rachel Timoner
Marc Wernick

Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.

Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Jews

Committee Chairs

Adult Education, Ron Edelman and Joss Eldredge
Baby Chavurah, by committee
Bequests and Donations, open
Bikkur Cholim, open
Book Group, Mark Mackler
Building and Grounds, Beth Sousa
Bylaws, open
Children's Education Board, Howard Herman
Cemetery, Richard Inlander
Dues, Tiela Chalmers
East Bay Chavurah, Ida Kuluk and Larry Wexler
Endowment Fund, David Stein
Experiment in Congregational Education, Dan Bellm
Finance, Gail Ludwig
Fine Arts, Barbara Cymrot
Fund for the Future, Laura Lowe
Fundraising, Open
Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin
Israel Committee, Miki Goralsky and Steve Mazer
Kesher/Connection, Marianne Balin and Geri Kahn
Leadership Development, Diana Buchbinder
Library, Bernard Schertzer
Long-Range Planning, Claudia Bernard
Membership Outreach, Tony Harris
Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign, Deborah Udin
Newsletter, Karen Schiller
• newsletter@shaarzahav.org
Outreach, Prudence Carter
Past Presidents' Council, David Gellman
Personnel, Jeff Sherman
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky and Marc Wernick
Rabbi Liaison, Ora Prochovnick
Ritual, Howard Steiermann
Social Action, AJ Turpin, Susan Lubeck
UAHC National Liaison, Mike Rankin
UAHC Regional Liaison, Daniel Chesir
WCGLBJO Liaison, David Gellman
Web and I.T., Drew Parker-Rose

Bikkur Cholim: If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

Sponsor an Oneg Shabbat!

Sponsoring the oneg Shabbat following services is a lovely way to commemorate a special occasion. Please call the CSZ office for more information.